

# DS

## Luncheon Seminar

Thursday 30 July 2026

at the National Press Club

16 National Circuit, Barton

June 2026

### *Speaker:*

[Air Commodore Pete Warmerdam MNSS MMS BSc FNDU RAF](#)

*UK Defence Advisor, Australia*

### *"Our Bilateral Relationship"*



**Newsletter  
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From the President

Although hostilities in parts of the Middle East have apparently been resolved, for this week at least, profound security challenges continue elsewhere.

These include those referred to in the last edition of [DS](#), most notably the continuing war in Ukraine and closer to home, concerns about China's intentions in our region and what the impact on Australia might be.

For a view from a very well informed outsider, with an insider's view of Australia's perspective, I am especially pleased that the UK Defence Advisor, Australia, [Air Commodore Pete Warmerdam](#) has accepted our invitation to join us for lunch on 30 July and share his perspectives as the UK's senior Defence representative in Australia. Not only has Air Commodore Warmerdam enjoyed a storied career in the RAF, he is also a graduate from BOTH the Australian Advanced Command and Staff College (2012) and Defence Strategic Studies Course (2025), earning two Master's degrees in the process - he knows how we think and how we operate! (He is also eligible to join our association, something he may wish to consider especially if he joins his predecessors who have settled here!)

While I have suggested the broad title of "Our Bilateral Relationship" for Air Commodore Warmerdam's lunch address, I expect there will be scope for a wide ranging discussion on such issues as AUKUS and the impact of the war in Ukraine on the current security situation in Europe.

So much to think about between now and when we next meet on Thursday 30 July, so have your questions ready! I look forward to seeing those able to attend our lunch and hear from Air Commodore Warmerdam. In the meantime, I encourage you to monitor our website for earliest advice of any changes to our program and any other news.

Stay well,

Ian

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